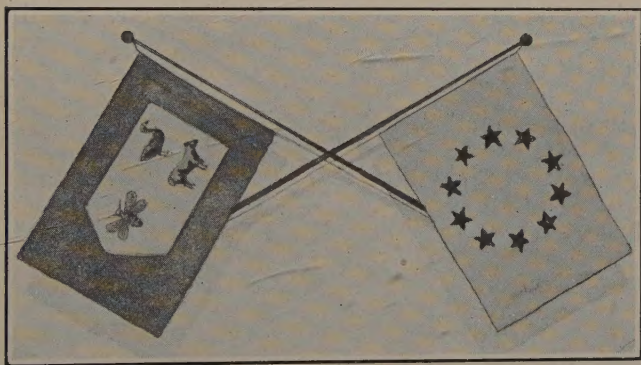


RHODE ISLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY COLLECTIONS

Vol. XX

July, 1927

No. 3



Flags of the City of Providence

Drawn by Albert L. Bodwell

See page 79

Issued Quarterly

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RHODE
HISTORICAL



ISLAND
SOCIETY

COLLECTIONS

Vol. XX

July, 1927

No. 3

G. ALDER BLUMER, *President*
HOWARD W. PRESTON, *Secretary*

GILBERT A. HARRINGTON, *Treasurer*
HOWARD M. CHAPIN, *Librarian*

The Society assumes no responsibility for the statements or the opinions of contributors.

Providence Street Names

CONTRIBUTED BY HOWARD W. PRESTON

The Town of Providence at two different times made an official list of the names of the streets and lanes of the Town.

The first list was presented and approved by the Townsmen in Town meeting in 1772.

The second was established by the Town Council in 1805.

These two lists are here printed from documents in the Archives of the City of Providence.

I

PROVIDENCE TOWN PAPERS 015050

NAMES OF STREETS LANES AND ALLEYS IN THE
TOWN OF PROVIDENCE

From the Middle of the Parade at Weybosset Bridge down
Town Southerly to the Southermost Water Lot

WATER STREET

From the middle of said Parade up town or Northward to
the Northwest Corner of the Court House lot

KING STREET

From thence Northward to the parting of the Road against
Benjamin Hunt's

WILLIAM'S STREET

From thence along what hath been commonly called the Main
Street to the junction of the Road at Dr. Hawes's corner
from thence to the Common Burying Ground

PRINCE STREET

From the Parade on the East Side of the Bridge Westward
to the parting of the Road by Jacob Whitman

MARKET STREET

From Jacob Whitmans to Muddy Bridge

WEYBOSSET STREET

and from thence to Abbot Square on which Snows Meeting
House stands

BROAD STREET

From Mr. Whitmans Corner up Westward which hath been
known by the name of the Back Street to the junction with
High Street near the Burying Ground.

WESTMINSTER STREET

Cross Street from Eleazer Hardings Corner to Timothy
Gladdings

ORANGE STREET

Cross Street from Benoni Pearies Corner to Spooners
Corner

UNION STREET

From the Rev. Mr. Snows Corner to Westminster Street

SCHOOL STREET

From Joseph Potters down upon the Marsh

SNOW STREET

From Mr. Nightingales Corner down by the Dock

DOCK STREET

From Abbotts Square to the Parting of the road at Widow
Browns

HIGH STREET

From Mr. Leavers towards Cowpen Point

SHIP STREET

From James Hoyles Corner at the parting of the Road toward
Pawtuxet PAWTUXET STREET

From the lower end of this Town or City the whole length
of what is commonly called the Back Street until it comes
into what hath been called the Main Street at Levi Burrs
Corner BENEFIT STREET

From Benefit Street along by Thomas Bennets House
TRANSIT LANE

From Nicholas Powers House up eastward POWERS LANE

From the corner of Wood Morris's House adjoining Water
Street up to Benefit Street PLANET LANE

From Dr's. Bowen's and Mrs. Pagets Corners up to Benefit
St. by the Presbyterian Meeting House HANOVER STREET

From Benefit Street to the College COLLEGE STREET

From the Southwest Corner of the Quaker Meeting House
Lot up to Benefit Street MEETING STREET

From thence further Eastward the GOAL LANE

From the Southerly Side of Mr. Howland's Houses up to
Benefit Street BOWEN ALLEY

From the South Side of Benjamin Hunts House up to Benefit
Street STAR LANE

From the parting of the Great Road, thence over the mill
bridge MILL STREET

From Daniel Cahoone's up to Benefit Street SUMMER LANE

From Levi Burrs along by the Back of Mr. Taylors to Joseph
Olneys WINTER LANE

From Constitution Street up by Liberty Tree to the East-
ward LIBERTY STREET

From Dr. Hewes's Corner to Moshasuck River at Stevens
Bridge OLNEY STREET

From Obadiah Spragues to Olney Street along on the Hill
STAMPERS LANE

From Olney Street along by the side of the Hill to the Mill
bridge MOSHASUCK LANE

From the Work or Alms House to John Seamans House
CHARLES STREET

From the lower end of the Town toward Tockwotten as far
as the plain WICKENDEN LANE

To the Town meeting to be held in Providence on the eighteenth
day of September 1770.

We being appointed to give and establish Names for the
Streets Lanes &c in the Town of Providence Do Report the
aforewritten to be our proceedings in that Behalf

Silas Downer
Thomas Bennet
Iabez Bowen
Dan'l Cahoon
Step-Rowson

At a Town Meeting held at Providence the 18th Day of Sept.
1770 the within and aforegoing report was accepted and ordered
to be Recorded.

Test James Angell Clerk

Recorded in the beging of Book No. 20 for

Recording of Deeds &c April 22, 1772
By J. Angell, Clerk

II

BOOK 8 TOWN COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS 1800-1806 PAGE 533
At a Town Council holden within and for the Town of Providence on the 12th day of November 1805

Present John Dorrance Prest.
Joseph Jenckes
Nathan Waterman
Young Seamans

This Council, resuming the subject by them taken into consideration on the fourteenth day of October last concerning the

names of the Streets in this Town do decree that the following Streets be hereafter called and Known by the names hereby respectively annexed to them, That is to say.

1. The streets formerly called Water Street, Kings Street, Williams Street, Constitution Street, and part of Prince Street, and the new Street at the North End, the whole extending from Wickenden Street at the South end to the Town line near the House of Jeremiah Dexter at the North end; be altogether Called
MAIN STREET

2d. The street next eastward from Main Street leading from Wickenden Street by the dwelling House of Lewis Ormsbee, Northward to the junction with Main Street on Constitution Hill
BENEFIT STREET

3d. The street from Olney's Lane, Southward to Angell street near the Powder House
PROSPECT STREET

4d. That the street extending southward from Olney's Lane over Tockwotten to the shore (heretofore called Second Back Street) including the Street formerly called West Street
HOPE STREET

5. The Street from George to Benevolent Street Westward from the School House
MEGEE STREET

6. The street from Power to Benevolent Street, westward of Mr. Ives new House
BROWN STREET

7. The street from Arnold to Power Street between the Houses of Mr. Burroughs and Mr. Ellis
THAYER STREET

8. The street from Wickenden Street at the House belonging to Captain Joseph Peck Northward to Williams Street
BROOK STREET

9. The street from the South end of Main street at the foot of lower Wharf eastward to Hope Street
WICKENDEN STREET

10. The street from Benefit Street between the House of Nicholas Stillwell and the shop of Pitcher and Dagget to Hope Street
SHELDON STREET

11. The street leading eastward from Main Street between the House of Capt. Power and John and Israel Davis to Hope Street
TRANSIT STREET
12. The street from Benefit Street by Christopher Arnolds house to Hope street
ARNOLD STREET
13. The Main Street from Main to Benefit Street by the House of the late James Arnold Esquire
JAMES STREET
14. The Street from Benefit Street next South of the dwelling House John Innes Clark Esq. to Hope Street
JOHN STREET
15. The street established in the year 1794 by William Ashtons House from Main to Benefit Street together with the Street from Benefit to Hope Street and heretofore called Williams Street be both called
WILLIAMS STREET
16. The street from Main to Hope Street passing by the mansion House of the late John Brown Esq.
POWER STREET
17. The Street leading Southward between Main and Benefit Street from Power to Williams Street
WELL STREET
18. The Alley leading from the last mentioned street by the House of William Harding to Main Street
HARDING'S ALLEY
19. The Street from Main to Benefit Street by the mansion House of the late Welcome Arnold Esq.
PLANET STREET
20. The Street from Benefit St. to Hope Street between Lands of the Benevolent Congregational Society and the lands of the heirs of Joseph Crawford deceased
BENEVOLENT STREET
21. The Street from Benefit to Hope Street next South of the College
GEORGE STREET
22. The street from Main to Benefit Street between the dwelling Houses of Dr. Henry Sterling and the late Gov. Hopkins
HOPKINS STREET
23. The Street from Main Street to the College part of which was formerly called Hanover Street
COLLEGE STREET
24. The Street from Main to Benefit Street next South of the Baptist Meeting House
PRESIDENT STREET

25. The street eastward from the Baptist Meeting House to Hope street by the Rev. Dr. Gano's ANGELL STREET
26. The street from Main to Benefit Street next North of the Baptist Meeting House THOMAS STREET
27. The Street from Main to Hope Street next south of the Quaker Meeting House MEETING STREET
28. The street next south of the Court House from Main Street across Benefit Street into Meeting street. SOUTH COURT STREET
29. The street next North of the Court House from Main Street to Benefit Street NORTH COURT STREET
30. The Street from Main to Benefit Street next South of the Mansion House of the late Dr. Benjamin Bowen. BOWEN STREET
31. The Alley next North of Ezra Hubbard's House from Main to Benefit Street HOWLANDS ALLEY
32. The street from Main to Benefit Street next south of the Episcopal Church CHURCH STREET
33. The Street from Main to Benefit Street next North of the last mentioned street STAR STREET
34. The Alley from Main to Benefit Street by James Curries House SHORT ALLEY
35. The lane from Main Street by George Olney's House Eastward toward Dexter Browns OLNEY'S LANE
36. The Lane on the North Line of the Town from Jeremiah Dexter's eastward HARRINGTONS LANE
37. The Street lately established on the east side of the Cove upon the Water edge from Weybosset Bridge to the Gangway by Jonathan Tillinghasts WATER STREET
38. The Street from Main to Charles Street over the Mill Bridge MILL STREET

39. The Street formerly Called Stampers Lane upon the Hill immediately westward of the Montgomery Tavern and nearly parallel with Main Street STAMPERS STREET
40. The street leading from Main Street southward over Stevens Bridge STEVENS STREET
41. The street from Main Street from Main street near Silvarius Martins over Randall's Bridge to Charles St. RANDALL STREET
42. The Street from Main street by the House of the late Amasa Gray northward to the Burying Ground by Uriah Hopkins SEXTON STREET
43. The alley next northward of the late Amasa Gray House from Sexton Street to Main Street COZZENS ALLEY
44. The street along the Bank eastward of the Mill Pond from the Mill Bridge to Stevens Street BARK STREET
45. The Street leading from the west side of the Work House along the Western Bank of the River by Stevens Bridge North Providence line toward the House of the late Esek Hopkins Esquire CHARLES STREET
46. The street leading from Main Street over the Bridge by the Work House up the hill westward SMITH STREET
47. The Street from Charles Street westward by the House of Philip Martin to North Providence line MARTIN STREET
48. The Street from Charles Street westward by Fenner Angells ORMS STREET
49. The Street from Smith to Orms Street by the House of Benjamin Smith BEN STREET
50. The street from Main Street over Weybosset Bridge westward to Whitmans Corner MARKET STREET
51. The street formerly called Weybosset Street, Broad street and part of High Street extending from Whitman Corner to the junction of Westminster and High Streets WEYBOSSET STREET

52. The Street from Market Street at the Exchange Bank straight Westward to its junction with High Street

WESTMINSTER STREET

53. The Street from the westward ends of Weybosset and Westminser Streets to Tar Bridge

HIGH STREET

54. The Street from High Street at the Hoyle Tavern Westward towards Monkey Town

CRANSTON STREET

55. The street leading from Weybosset Street by George Battey's House toward Pawtuxet

PAWTUXET STREET

56. The new street laid from the road to the New Hospital and extending northeastward to Muddy Dock being the first street southward from Weybosset and Pawtuxet Street

PINE STREET

57. The street next southward of Pine Street and running Parallel therewith extending from the Road to the New Hospital to the Salt Water southward of Muddy Dock

FRIENDSHIP STREET

58. The street from Westminster Street between the Houses of Mr. Burrill and Mr. Gladding across Weybosset Street to the Salt Water

ORANGE STREET

59. The street Northward from Weybosset Street between the Houses of Thomas S. Webb and Geršhom Jones

PLEASANT STREET

60. The street from Weybosset Street northward between the Houses of Capt. Turpin Smith and Capt. Bowler and across Westminster Street to the Salt Water

UNION STREET

61. The Lane called Clemence Lane extending from Westminster street northward and Sugar Lane extending southward from Westminster Street to Weybosset Street

SUGAR LANE

62. The Street leading northward from Westminster Street by the House late of Paul Allen deceased, and the Street leading southward from Westminster Street to Weybosset Street by the Theatre

MATHEWSON STREET

63. The street leading from Westminster street by Edward Aborn's House ABORN STREET
64. The street from Westminster St. southward to Weybosset Street between Houses of Capt. James Monroe and Capt. Cole SNOW STREET
65. The Street leading Northward from Westminster Street between the Houses of Ephraim Walker and Captain Cole WALKER STREET
66. The street running Southward from Westminster Street to Weybosset Streets by the Lots of Deacon Fuller and James Burrill Jr. BURRILL STREET
67. The Street leading from the Salt Water westward by the House of Col. John Mathewson and by the Rope Walk WASHINGTON STREET
68. The Street leading southward from Weybosset Street by the late Mansion House of Capt. William Rhodes towards Eddy's Point PAGE STREET
69. The street next Westward of the last mentioned street and nearly parallel therewith RHODES STREET
70. The street passing between the House of Samuel Ames and that of Phinehas and Joseph Potter POTTER STREET
71. The Street leading southward from Weybosset Street heretofore called Richmond Street and sometime Claverack Street RICHMOND STREET
72. The straight part of the Street formerly Called Shipyard Street at the northerly end of said street together with the late Continuation of said straight part southward CHESTNUT STREET
73. The remaining part of said Shipyard Street extending from Chestnut Street down to Eddy's Point SHIP STREET
74. The street leading from Ship street eastward across Richmond Street to the Salt Water and heretofore called Prospect Street PRIME STREET

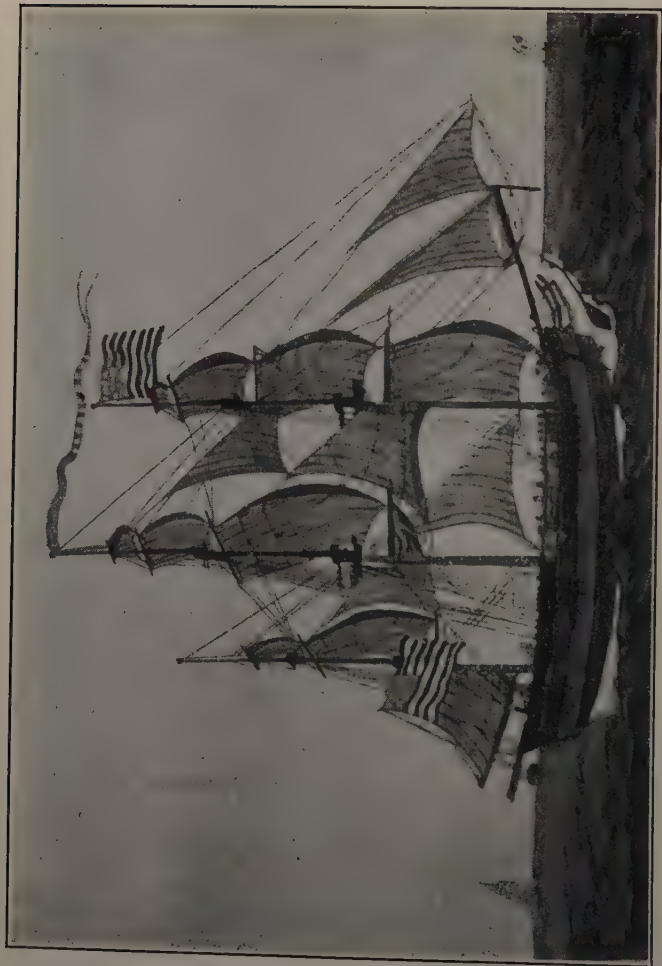
75. The street at Eddys Point extending southward next the shore
EDDYS STREET
76. The street leading southward from Ship Street and next westward from the last mentioned street
FIELD STREET

Providence Flags

The flags shown on the cover of this issue of the *Collections* are the official flags of the Board of Aldermen and Common Council of the City of Providence.

The flag of the Board of Aldermen is flown from the City Hall when the Board is in session. It is a blue flag with a large, white shield "bearing the representations of a bee, a goose and a lamb, as emblematical of industry, watchfulness and peace." These figures of animals were black or dark blue on the older flags and were arranged as shown in the illustration. On the present flag the animals are in their proper colors and are placed horizontally on the shield instead of vertically, but in the same relative positions. The bee has its wings folded. The flag is based upon the seal of the Board of Aldermen, which is described in the *Ordinances of the City of Providence*, printed in 1845, page 75. Also see *Book Notes*, volume 28, page 36. The goose, as a symbol of watchfulness, is derived from the story of the goose whose cackling saved Rome.

The flag of the Common Council of the City of Providence is flown from the City Hall when the Council is in session, and is a white flag with ten red stars arranged in the form of a circle. Each star represents one of the wards of the city. This design harks back to colonial days, for as early at 1724 the seal of the Town Council of Providence was seven stars. These stars had six points, which in the course of time became modified or conventionalized into the five pointed stars in use today.



The ship Union, commanded by Captain Peleg Remington of Pawtuxet, Warwick, R. I., in the early years of the nineteenth century.

*From original water color sketch in the
Richard W. Constock, Jr. Memorial
Collection in the Society's Museum.*

The Name Rhode Island

The origin of the name Rhode Island is uncertain. The first mention of the name in connection with Narragansett Bay is in the letter¹ of Giovanni da Verrazzano, the explorer, dated July 8, 1524, in which he refers to an island² near the mouth of Narragansett Bay, and likens the island to the Island of Rhodes in the Mediterranean. This letter was printed in Italian in 1556 and in English in 1582, and again in 1600, so that it may be considered as accessible to the early settlers before they left England.

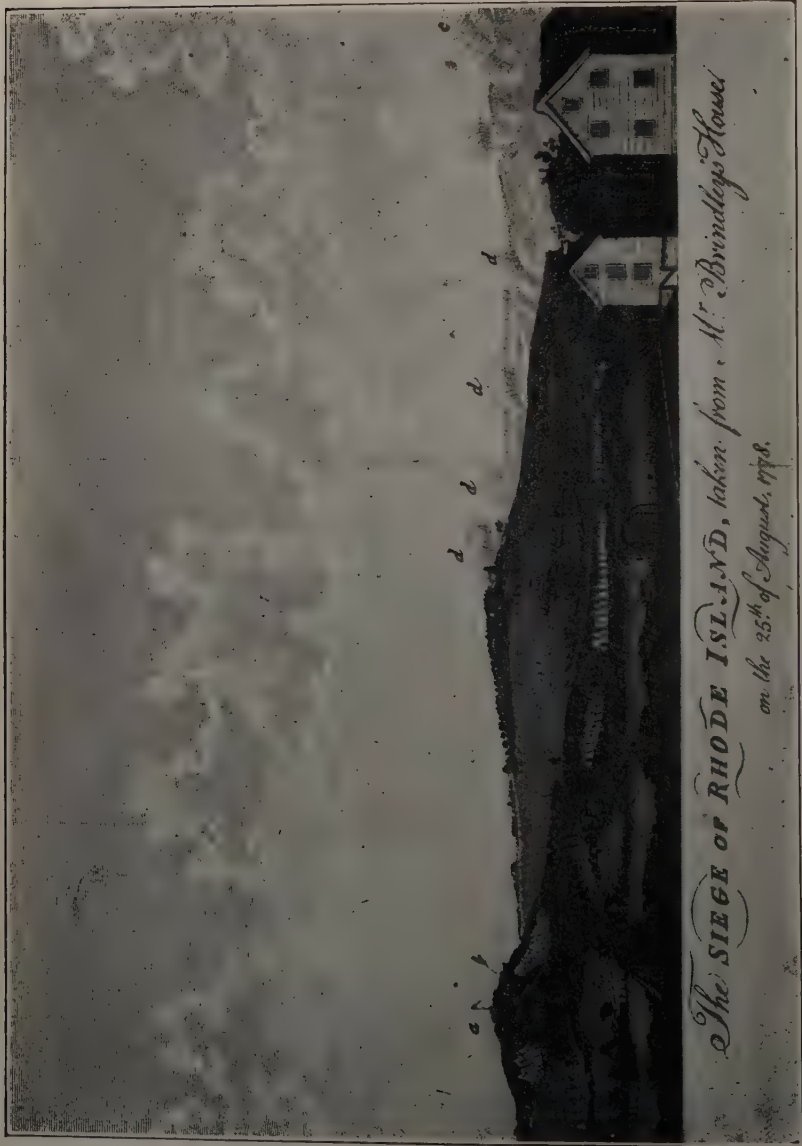
The earliest recorded use of the name by the English colonists is in 1637, when Roger Williams wrote "at Aquednetick, called by us Rode Island." It might be well to note here that the Italian text is "isola di Rhodi," while the English text is "Ilande of the Rodes." Williams still spelled the name without the "h" in 1666, when he explained, "Rode Island (in the Greeke language) is an Ile of Roses."

The name was first officially applied to the island on March 13, 1644 in these words: "Aquethneck shall be henceforth called the Ile of Rhods or Rhod-Island." The name "Isle of Rodes" is found used in a legal document as late as 1646. In 1663 the name Rhode Island was applied to the whole colony.

The theory that the name Rhode Island is a corruption of the phrase "rodlich Eylandeken," by which Block described one of the islands in Narragansett Bay, is weakened by the fact that the Dutch never applied the name "Rhode Island" to Aquidneck, until after the name had been in use several years by the English. In fact the Dutch still called Aquidneck, the Island "van Nassau" long after the name Rhode Island was in common use by the English.

¹The voyage and letter of Verrazzano have been disputed, but the undisputed fact remains that the letter was printed in English in 1582, and so was accessible to such a man as Roger Williams.

²The fact that Verrazzano probably referred to Block Island rather than to Aquidneck is of no great moment, the point being that he applied the name to one of the islands in this vicinity and that this fact might well have been known to the early settlers.



Printed in the Gentlemen's Magazine, London, for February 1779.

From original in the Society's Library

Notes

The following persons have been elected to membership in the Society:

Dr. N. Darrell Harvey	Mr. Arthur L. Philbrick
Dr. George H. Crooker	Dr. Harold Bowditch
Mr. Frank L. Hinckley	Mr. Barnes Newberry
Mr. William S. Innis	Miss Mary E. H. Cranston
Col. G. Edward Buxton	Mr. Albert H. Poland
Mr. Walter Hidden	

A manuscript genealogy of the Truman family, written about 1799, is a gift from Miss Eliza E. Gee.

The genealogical notes on the Angell family, which were collected by Miss Anne Sibley Angell, have been presented to the Society by her niece, Mrs. Robert C. Dexter.

Mr. Harold C. Lyman has given several objects to the Society including the Civil War uniform worn by his father, Asa Lyman, quartermaster sergeant in the 10th Rhode Island Battery.

Dr. James H. Davenport has recently issued a catalogue of his library of non-medical books by doctors under the title of "Literary Doctors of Medicine."

The Rhode Island Ship Model Society, which was organized last year, has instituted a quarterly bulletin, called the *Rhode Island Mariner*, dealing with maritime history. The January and April issues of the *Rhode Island Mariner* contain much of interest.

The Society of Colonial Dames in the State of Rhode Island has issued a photostat map showing the location of the English homes of the early settlers of Rhode Island.

Beginning last September the Society has kept its building open to the public on Sunday afternoons from three to five and on Tuesday evenings from seven to nine. This privilege has been enjoyed by an ever increasing number of research workers, who find it impossible or inconvenient to use the Society's library during the regular week-day hours.

At the suggestion of the Executive Committee, fifty members of the Society contributed ten dollars each for a "Revolving Publication Fund," and when this five hundred dollars had been subscribed, Mr. Frederick S. Peck gave an equal sum of five hundred dollars to the fund, thus bringing the total to one thousand dollars.

Dr. G. Alder Blumer, President of the Rhode Island Historical Society, with appropriate remarks, unveiled the tablet to General Nathanael Greene, which was placed on University Hall, Brown University, by the First Light Infantry Regiment on their 109th anniversary. The tablet reads :

IN MEMORY OF
GENERAL
NATHANAEL GREENE
WHO COMMANDED THE
FIRST BRIGADE OF RHODE
ISLANDERS TO JOIN THE
CONTINENTAL ARMY IN THE
SIEGE OF BOSTON IN JUNE
1775 AND WHO RECEIVED
THE HONORARY DEGREE
OF MASTER OF ARTS FROM
THIS COLLEGE IN 1776

VIRTVTEM CITO HONORARE EST SVAM PROBARE

THIS TABLET IS PLACED BY THE
FIRST LIGHT INFANTRY REGIMENT
OF RHODE ISLAND MAY 11, 1927

List of Active Members of the Rhode Island Historical Society June, 1927

Mr. Benjamin B. Adams	Mrs. Theodore P. Bogert
Hon. Joshua M. Addeman	Harold Bowditch, M.D.
Mr. Frederick W. Aldred	Mr. Clovis H. Bowen
Mr. Charles T. Aldrich	Mrs. Charles Bradley
Mr. Edward K. Aldrich, Jr.	Mrs. A. B. Bradshaw
Hon. Richard S. Aldrich	Mr. Claude R. Branch
Mr. Francis O. Allen	Mr. John B. Branch
Mr. Frederick W. Allen	Miss Elizabeth H. Brayton
Mr. Howard V. Allen	Miss Ida F. Bridgham
Mr. Philip Allen	Mr. Herbert O. Brigham
Mrs. Frederick Allien	Miss Eva St. C. Brightman
Miss Anna L. Andrews	Mrs. Clarence A. Brouwer
Mr. Walter F. Angell	Mr. Clarence Irving Brown
Miss Emily J. Anthony	Mr. Cyrus P. Brown
Mr. Arthur H. Armington	Mr. Frank Hail Brown
Mr. Frederick W. Arnold	Mrs. Frank Hail Brown
Mr. James H. Arthur	Mr. John Nicholas Brown
Mr. Albert Babcock	Mr. Wilbur D. Brown
Mr. Albert A. Baker	Mr. Alfred S. Brownell
Mrs. Charles K. Baker	Mr. Edward C. Bucklin
Mr. Harvey A. Baker	Mr. Harris H. Bucklin
Miss Mary H. Balch	Miss Jane W. Bucklin
Mr. Luther C. Baldwin	Miss Clara Buffum
Mrs. Walter S. Ball	Mr. Frederick H. Buffum
Mr. Frederick D. Ballou	Mr. Henry Buker
Mr. Henry A. Barker	Mr. George Rothwell Burgess
Harry Lee Barnes, M.D.	Mr. Sydney R. Burleigh
Mrs. Nelly A. Barnes	Mr. Edwin A. Burlingame
Mr. Arthur C. Barrows	Mr. Alfred T. Butler
Hon. Chester W. Barrows	Col. G. Edward Buxton
Miss Mildred E. Bassett	Mr. John H. Cady
Mr. Francis E. Bates	Mr. Charles A. Calder
W. Lincoln Bates, M.D.	Mrs. Charles A. Calder
Mrs. Daniel Beckwith	Frank T. Calef, M.D.
Mr. Horace G. Belcher	Mr. Herbert C. Calef
Mr. Horatio E. Bellows	Mr. Walter R. Callender
G. Alder Blumer, M.D.	Mrs. George H. Capron
Mr. J. J. Bodell	Mr. Frederick D. Carr

- Mrs. George W. Carr
Mr. Edward Carrington
Mr. William Carroll
Miss Anna H. Chace
Mr. Malcolm G. Chace
Mrs. Everitte S. Chaffee
Mr. Arthur D. Champlin
Mr. George B. Champlin
Mr. George Allen Chandler
Charles V. Chapin, M.D.
Mrs. Charles V. Chapin
Mr. Howard M. Chapin
Mrs. Howard M. Chapin
Mr. William P. Chapin
Mr. Frederic L. Chase
Dr. Julian A. Chase
Mr. Albert W. Claflin
Mr. Harry C. Clark
Mrs. Henry G. Clark
Prof. Theodore Collier
Mrs. Clarkson A. Collins, Jr.
Mr. Edward L. Coman
Mr. Andrew B. Comstock
Mr. Walter J. Comstock
Mrs. W. A. H. Comstock
Mr. William P. Comstock
Mrs. Washington E. Connor
Mr. Charles D. Cook
Mrs. Charles D. Cook
Mr. Albert B. Coulters
Mr. Ernest S. Craig
Prof. Verner W. Crane
Mr. Frank H. Cranston
Miss Mary E. H. Cranston
George H. Crocker, M.D.
Mr. Harry Parsons Cross
Mrs. Frank Anthony Cummings
Mr. Harold R. Curtis
Murray S. Danforth, M.D.
Mrs. Murray S. Danforth
Mr. William C. Dart
Mr. Foster B. Davis
Mr. Jeffrey Davis
Miss Mary Elliott Davis
Mr. Charles J. Davol
Mrs. Thomas Hart deCoudres
Prof. Edmund B. Delabarre
Mr. George C. Dempsey
Miss Alice S. Dexter
Mr. Henry C. Dexter
Miss Louise Dipman
Mr. Michael F. Dooley
Hon. William W. Douglas
Mrs. Louis W. Downes
Mr. Robert T. Downs
Mr. Charles L. Drown
Mr. Charles D. Dunlop
Mr. Wilfred I. Duphiney
Miss Margarethe L. Dwight
Col. H. Anthony Dyer
Mr. William Allan Dyer
Mr. William O. Dyer
Mr. Charles G. Easton
Mr. Frederick W. Easton
Mr. Cyrus T. Eddy
Miss Isabel Eddy
Mr. William Holden Eddy
Miss Edith Edwards
Mr. Walter Angell Edwards
Mr. James Elgar
Mr. William Ely
Mr. Frank W. Emerson
Mr. Ralph C. Estes
Mr. William Wood Estes
Mr. William H. P. Faunce
Mr. Henry A. Fifield
Mr. Augustus H. Fiske
Mrs. Charles Fletcher
Mr. Dutee Wilcox Flint
Mr. Elliot Flint
Hon. William S. Flynn
Mr. Charles S. Foster
Mr. Theodore W. Foster
Mr. William E. Foster
Mrs. George H. Fowler
Mr. John R. Freeman
Hon. Joseph W. Freeman
Mr. Frederick H. Fuller
Mr. R. Clinton Fuller
Hon. Joseph H. Gainer

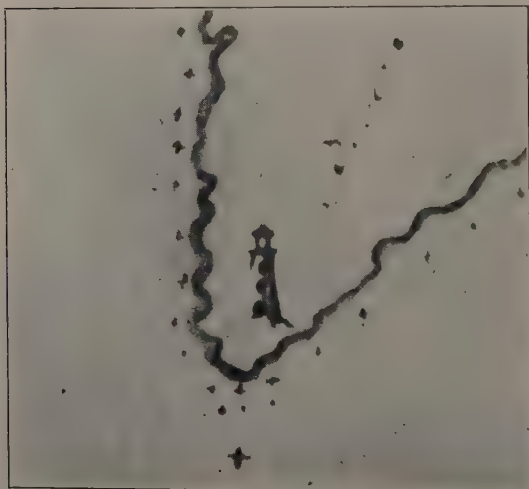
Mr. William Gammell	Mr. E. Harris Howard, Jr.
Mr. William Gammell, Jr.	Mr. Frederic W. Howe
Prof. Henry B. Gardner	Mr. M. A. DeWolfe Howe
Mr. Preston H. Gardner	Mr. Horatio A. Hunt
Hon. Rathbone Gardner	Mr. S. Foster Hunt
Mr. Daniel F. George	Mrs. Duncan Hunter
Mr. John R. Gladding	Mr. Louis H. C. Huntoon
Mrs. Alice C. Gleeson	Mr. George Hurley
Mr. Robert H. I. Goddard	Mr. James H. Hurley
Mr. Harry Hale Goss	Mr. Richard A. Hurley
Mr. Eugene S. Graves	Mr. James Hazen Hyde
Hon. Theodore Francis Green	Mr. William S. Innis
Mr. Arthur D. Greene	Mr. Norman M. Isham
Mr. Edward Aborn Greene	Mr. Benjamin A. Jackson
Mr. Thomas C. Greene	Mrs. Donald E. Jackson
Mr. William C. Greene	Mr. Arthur James
Mr. Ralph M. Greenlaw	Mr. George A. Jepherson
Mr. William B. Greenough	Mrs. Edward L. Johnson
Mr. Russell Grinnell	George F. Johnson, M.D.
Mr. E. Tudor Gross	Mr. Edward C. Joyce
Miss Georgiana Guild	Mr. Francis B. Keeney
Mr. Ellery A. Hall	Mrs. Ellsworth L. Kelley
Miss Annette M. Ham	Hon. Charles D. Kimball
Mr. Gilbert A. Harrington	Mrs. Charles D. Kimball
Mr. Benjamin P. Harris	Eugene P. King, M.D.
Mr. Stephen C. Harris	Col. H. Irving King
Mr. Everett S. Hartwell	Mr. Victor H. King
N. Darrell Harvey, M.D.	Lucius C. Kingman, M.D.
Mr. William A. Hathaway	Miss Amelia S. Knight
Miss Caroline Hazard	Mr. C. Prescott Knight
Mr. Rowland Hazard	Mr. Robert L. Knight
Mr. Thomas G. Hazard, Jr.	Mrs. Robert L. Knight
Mrs. Annita Healy	Mr. Russell W. Knight
Mr. Charles F. Heartman	Mrs. Webster Knight
Mrs. W. E. Heathcote	Mrs. Rhea L. Knittle
Mr. Arthur Henius	Prof. Harry L. Koopman
Mr. John Henshaw	Mr. John Krawczuk
Mr. Walter Hidden	Hon. George R. Lawton
Mr. Frank L. Hinckley	Hon. Thomas Z. Lee
Mr. William L. Hodgman	Charles H. Leonard, M.D.
Mr. John S. Holbrook	Miss Grace F. Leonard
Mr. George J. Holden	Miss Anna L. Lestrade
Mrs. E. N. W. Hopkins	Mr. George H. Lewis
Mr. Charles A. Horton	Mr. John B. Lewis
Mr. Walter E. Horton	Mr. Joseph W. Lewis

- Mr. Ferdinand A. Lincoln
Mrs. Charles Warren Lippitt
Mr. Charles Warren Lippitt
Mrs. Frances Pomeroy Lippitt
Mr. Gorton T. Lippitt
Hon. Henry F. Lippitt
Mr. Arthur B. Lisle
Mrs. Arthur B. Lisle
Mr. Charles W. Littlefield
Mr. Ivory Littlefield
Hon. Nathan W. Littlefield
Rev. Augustus M. Lord
Mr. Albert E. Lownes
Mr. Harold C. Lyman
Mr. Richard E. Lyman
Mr. William A. McAuslan
Mr. Francis I. McCanna
Mr. Hugh F. MacColl
Mr. James R. MacColl
Mr. William B. MacColl
Mr. Arthur M. McCrillis
Mr. T. F. I. McDonnell
Mrs. T. F. I. McDonnell
Mr. Charles B. Mackinney
Mrs. Edwin A. A. McLeod
Mrs. Herbert E. Maine
Mrs. William H. Mansfield
Mr. Charles C. Marshall
Mrs. John F. Marvel
Mr. Fletcher S. Mason
Mr. Harold Mason
Mr. John H. Mason
Mrs. William B. Mason
Mrs. George S. Mathews
Mr. Archibald C. Matteson
Mr. Frank W. Matteson
Mr. William L. Mauran
Mrs. F. E. Maxwell
Mrs. E. Bruce Merriman
Mr. Harold T. Merriman
Mr. Isaac B. Merriman
Mrs. E. T. H. Metcalf
Mr. G. Pierce Metcalf
Mr. Houghton P. Metcalf
Mrs. I. Harris Metcalf
Hon. Jesse H. Metcalf
Mrs. Jesse H. Metcalf
Mr. Stephen O. Metcalf
Mr. William Davis Miller
Mr. George L. Miner
Miss Lilian B. Miner
Mr. G. A. Moriarty, Jr.
Mrs. Bentley W. Morse
Mr. David P. Moulton
Mr. Edward S. Moulton
Mrs. Edward S. Moulton
William M. Muncy, M.D.
Walter L. Munro, M.D.
Prof. Wilfred H. Munro
Hon. Addison P. Munroe
Mr. Walter M. Murdie
Mr. George E. Nerney
Mr. Barnes Newberry
Mr. George H. Newhall
Mr. Louis C. Newman
Miss Eliza T. Newton
Mr. Paul C. Nicholson
Col. Samuel M. Nicholson
Mr. George C. Nightingale
Mr. George C. Nightingale, Jr.
Miss Mary Olcott
Mrs. Frank F. Olney
Mr. Erling C. Ostby
Mr. Harald W. Ostby
Mr. Raymond E. Ostby
Mr. Harry C. Owen
Mr. G. Richmond Parsons
H. G. Partridge, M.D.
Miss Elizabeth A. Peck
Mr. Frederick S. Peck
Mrs. Frederick S. Peck
Mrs. Leander R. Peck
Mr. Stephen I. Peck
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Mr. George E. Peirce
Mrs. George E. Peirce
Mr. John P. B. Peirce
Mr. Thomas A. Peirce
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Rt. Rev. James DeWolf Perry	Mrs. Charles Sisson
Mr. Marsden J. Perry	Mr. William A. Slade
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Mr. Arthur L. Philbrick	Mrs. Byron N. H. Smith
Mr. Charles H. Philbrick	Mrs. Edwin C. Smith
Mrs. Gilbert A. Phillips	Hon. Nathaniel W. Smith
Mr. Byron A. Pierce	R. Morton Smith, M.D.
Herman C. Pitts., M.D.	Mr. Walter B. Smith
Mr. Albert H. Poland	Mrs. Whitney Smith
Prof. William C. Poland	Mr. Sylvester M. Snow
Lewis B. Porter, M.D.	Mr. Robert L. Spencer
Mr. B. Thomas Potter	Mr. Henry S. Sprague
Mrs. Dexter B. Potter	Mr. Charles R. Stark
Mrs. Thomas I. Hare Powel	Mrs. James G. Staton
Mr. Howard W. Preston	Hon. Charles F. Stearns
Mrs. Howard W. Preston	Mrs. Charles J. Steedman
Miss Evelyn M. Purdy	Mr. Thomas E. Steere
Helen C. Putnam, M.D.	Miss Maud Lyman Stevens
Mr. Patrick H. Quinn	Mr. Edward Clinton Stiness
Mrs. Gustav Radeke	Mr. Henry Y. Stites
Mrs. George R. Ramsbottom	Mr. Edward A. Stockwell
Mr. Walter E. Ranger	Mr. Charles T. Straight
Mrs. Henry G. Raps	Mr. H. Nelson Street
Hon. Elmer J. Rathbun	Mr. John F. Street
Mrs. Irving E. Raymond	Mr. Rush Sturges
Mr. Charles C. Remington	Hon. Arthur P. Sumner
Rhode Island State College	Mr. Frank H. Swan
Hon. Herbert A. Rice	Mrs. Gardner T. Swarts
Mr. Herbert W. Rice	Hon. John W. Sweeney
Mr. Henry Isaac Richmond	Mr. Robert W. Taft
Mr. Louis E. Robinson	Mr. Royal C. Taft
Mr. Robert Rodman	Mrs. J. P. Thorndike
Rev. Arthur Rogers	Mr. John A. Tillinghast
Mrs. Mabel K. Rogers	Mr. William R. Tillinghast
Mr. Henry W. Sackett	Mr. Frederick E. Tripp
Mrs. T. Shaw Safe	Mr. William J. Tully
Mr. Henry Salomon	Mr. D. Berkeley Updike
Mrs. G. Coburn Sanctuary	Mr. William A. Viall
Mr. Henry M. Sessions	Hon. Walter B. Vincent
Mr. Henry D. Sharpe	Mrs. Arthur M. Walker
Mrs. Frederick E. Shaw	Mr. A. Tingley Wall
Mrs. Arthur N. Sheldon	Mrs. Lewis A. Waterman
Mr. Edward A. Sherman	Col. Byron S. Watson
Mr. Edwin F. Sherman	Mr. Edward L. Watson
Prof. St. George L. Sioussat	Mr. John J. Watson

Mrs. William B. Weeden
Mr. Richard Ward Greene Welling
Mr. Herbert J. Wells
Mr. John H. Wells
Mr. Thomas H. West, Jr.
Mr. Willis H. White
Mrs. Gerald Whitman
Mr. Victor Wilbour
Mr. Frank J. Wilder
Mrs. Elizabeth K. Wilkinson

W. Fred Williams, M.D.
Miss Amey L. Willson
Mr. William A. Wing
Mr. Wilson G. Wing
Mrs. George P. Winship
Hon. John Carter Brown Woods
Mr. Nathan M. Wright
Mr. Lawrence C. Wroth
Mr. William P. Young
Mrs. William P. Young



View of Beavertail Lighthouse about 1755, drawn by Peter Harrison.
Original in Colonial Office, London, England, (Maps, N. A. C., R. I. 5).
Photostat in R. I. H. S. Maps, XLII:9. Cf. R. I. H. S. C. XIV, 98b.

Contributed by Professor Verner W. Crane.

Colonial Heraldry

The great majority of those who used armorial bearings in colonial Rhode Island would seem to have considered themselves entitled to use them by right of descent. This claim of an hereditary right, though often tacit and unproven, was in fact merely the transplanting to the new world of the usage in regard to armorial bearings, that had been for a long time, and indeed still was to a large extent, in vogue in England. Only a few of the colonial Rhode Islanders obtained authorization from the College of Arms for the use of their arms.

Mr. W. H. Whitmore, Editor of the *Heraldic Journal*, back in 1866, most aptly dispelled certain widely accepted popular misconceptions in regard to heraldry in the following words:

“Here in America there is a common mistake in the supposition that certain coats-of-arms belong to certain families. As a supplement, it is supposed that all of the same surname constitute one family, and are hence entitled to the arms. This idea is clearly erroneous. *Identity of surname raises no presumption of identity of origin.*”

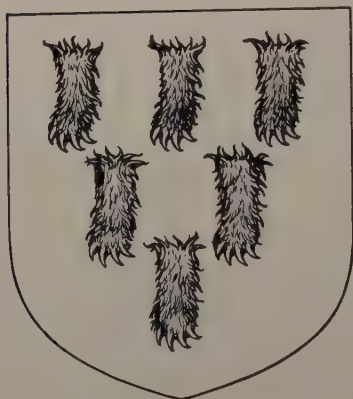
This last sentence cannot be too strongly emphasized in historical work.

A very brief study of heraldry will show clearly that many families of the same name are unrelated, and that many families of the same name bear entirely distinct arms.

Of course it is possible that a few arms may have been assumed outright in colonial New England, for at that period arms were occasionally assumed outright in England and on the Continent. It is also true that arms of one family may have been appropriated, or should we say misappropriated, by some other family, though doubtless usually through some mistaken belief in relationship and descent.

The purpose of this study is to record the armorial bearings that were used in colonial Rhode Island, and not to decide upon the user's right to them, but any available information, which may throw light on that problem, has been included.

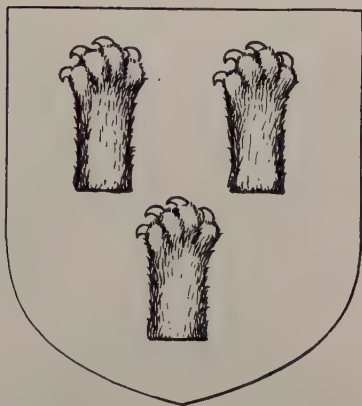
SWEET



James Sweet of Warwick, R. I., son of John Sweet of Salem, Mass., used an armorial seal on a letter dated at Warwick, June 19, 1664, (Prov. Town Papers 0127). The heraldic device is "six lion's paws erased inverted, 3, 2, 1." No such arms are given by Papworth, nor under the name of Sweet or Swett by Burke, but as there is no complete list of English arms, this is not surprising. The colors are not given, (Cf. R. I. H. S. C. XI:100).

The seal used by James Sweet may have been inherited through a maternal line, as was the Latham armorial seal used by Walter Clarke, grandson of Lewis Latham, but in the absence of any evidence to the contrary, the presumption is that the arms used by James Sweet were paternal arms.

USHER



The Usher hatchment, now in the museum of the Rhode Island Historical Society, bears the Usher arms as "Argent, three lion's paws coupéd erect sable, armed gules," with the crest, "a lion's paw coupéd erect sable, armed gules, holding a wand of the first."

A hatchment is an achievement of arms painted upon a background of black upon a lozenge-shaped panel; it is an heraldic symbol of mourning, which is placed on the outside (usually at the front entrance) of the house in which the deceased lived. The extent to which the hatchment was used in colonial New England is not known, but it seems probable that the hatchment was used occasionally, especially in the early half of the eighteenth century. Two of the coats in the Gore Roll of Arms, dated 1682 and 1715, have a skull for a crest, which suggests their use as hatchments.

The *Heraldic Journal*, (I:88 and IV:44) mentions an heraldic mourning flag, which is, of course, somewhat similar to a hatchment, as probably being used in Salem, Massachusetts, about 1709, and eight armorial escutcheons, each with a crescent for difference, were used at the funeral of William Lynde in 1752 (*ibid* IV, 94).

The Usher hatchment was probably used in connection with the obsequies of Lieutenant-Governor John Usher of New Hampshire, who died at Medford, September 5, 1726. His eldest son, Rev. John Usher, was at this time rector of St. Michael's Church, Bristol, R. I., and this hatchment was handed down in the Rhode Island branch of the family. Lieutenant-Governor John Usher used an armorial seal, being the same device as that of the hatchment, except that on the seal the shield carried a crescent for difference, (*Her. Jour.* IV:34 and also Vermont's *Heral. Amer.* p. 101 and 181, where evidently,



The Usher Hatchment

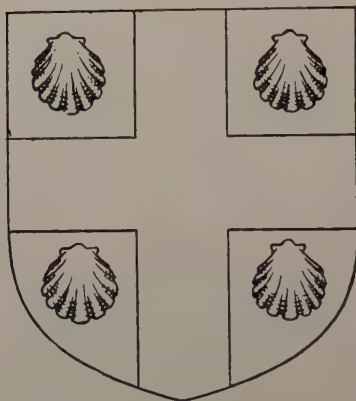
In the museum of the Society

through the error of the artist, the paws are "erased" and placed "in fesse" instead of "2, 1"). The crescent for difference also appears in the arms on the silverware owned by John Jeffries, grandson of Lieutenant-Governor John Usher. This John Usher was second son of Hezekiah Usher of Boston, and it is possible that he added the crescent for difference on that account. This theory is strengthened by the fact that the eldest son, Hezekiah Junior, died in 1697 without issue, whereby John became heir male of his father's branch of the family. After this date it would be proper for John to discard the crescent, and it is interesting to note that it does not appear on the hatchment. Of course the crescent may have been for cadency occurring in England, and may have been arbitrarily dropped, as in the case of the Greene family of Rhode Island.

The Usher hatchment is painted on wood, and on the back is a nineteenth century manuscript note, which reads: "Coat of Arms by Hezekiah Usher who died in Boston, 1676, Aged ——. His son John, Gov. of N. H. Ob. at Medford 1726." Burke credits these arms to Lieutenant-Governor John Usher of New Hampshire, but gives the wand of the crest as argent, and ascribes the same arms, but no crest, to the Ushers of Featherstone in Yorkshire.

Another similar Usher hatchment was found in the garret of the Usher homestead at Bristol, and placed in St Michael's Church a few years ago. Copinger tells us that "the proper time for keeping up a hatchment is a twelvemonth after death, when, if permissible, it may be removed to the church." Thus it will be seen that it was quite appropriate, though perhaps dilatory by over a century, to place the Usher hatchment in the church. This hatchment is painted on two pieces of wood, and is surrounded by a gilt frame. Both of these hatchments doubtless date from as early as the time of Rev. John Usher, Senior, (1695-1775,) and Dr. Harold Bowditch of Brookline, Mass., considers it very probable that the hatchment in the Society's museum was painted as early as 1726. The Rev. John Usher had strong aristocratic sympathies (see W. H. Munro's *History of Bristol*, p. 182), and this point of view would explain his use of the hatchment at the time of his father's death, or his family's use of it at his death.

COGGESHALL



The seal used by John Coggeshall of Newport, President of the Colony, who died in 1647, bore the armorial design of a cross between four escallops. An impression of this seal appears on two manuscripts in the Connecticut Archives *Colonial Boundaries*, vol. 1, pp. 103 and 109 (Cf. R. I. H. S. C. XV:103 and *Her. Jour.* II:45). The case of this Coggeshall armorial seal is particularly interesting, because, when Austin published his *Genealogical Dictionary of Rhode Island* in 1887, nothing was known in regard to the ancestry of John Coggeshall, and no evidence had been produced to show that he had any authorized or hereditary right to these arms. In 1893 his mother's will was printed in the *N. E. H. & G. Register*, but no evidence in regard to his hereditary right to the arms was produced until the *Register* for January 1919 (p. 19) printed the ancestry of John Coggeshall based on English records. These documents prove that John of Newport was descended from John of Halsted in Essex, who in 1563 had built an almshouse at Halsted, on which were placed his arms: "Argent, a cross between four escallops sable."

GREENE



The armorial silver seal of John Greene, Junior, of Warwick, Deputy Governor of Rhode Island from 1690 to 1700, is still extant and is owned by Mr. Henry L. Greene of Riverpoint, R. I. The arms are three bucks trippant, a crescent for difference. No colors are shown. The impressions from this seal appear on several colonial documents. Three impressions of it appear on a manuscript dated January 16, 1682 (Rhode Island Historical Society, Greene Papers, page 12), and there is one impression of it on the will of Malachi Rhodes, December 11, 1682, (see plate opposite page 734 of *The Greenes of Rhode Island*, where one of the photographs was unfortunately reversed). The English ancestry is traced in *The Greenes of Rhode Island*, (Cf. p. 741 and pp. 38-40) to the Greenes of Dorsetshire. The arms are "Azure three bucks trippant or." Why John Greene, Junior, used a crescent for difference on his arms is not clear, for he was the eldest son. It would seem therefore to have been for his father who, however, was not second son, but fourth son of Richard Greene. The second son died without children in 1617, and the third son died in 1650, leaving one son Robert Greene, Junior. If this second Robert Greene died without issue, which is of course possible, the

Rhode Island branch of the family would then have become the second surviving branch and John on that account, might assume the crescent for difference. It is claimed that the Greenes of Dorsetshire are descended from the Greenes of Greene Norton, Northamptonshire, but not proven. These arms, without the crescent for difference, are the arms of the Northamptonshire Greenes, but were used in 1651 by Richard Greene of Gillingham, Dorsetshire (*The Greenes of Rhode Island*, p. 768). The crescent was omitted from the arms by the descendants of Deputy Governor John Greene, and one of his descendants, General Nathanael Greene of Revolutionary fame, changed the field of the arms from azure to *vert* (*The Greenes of Rhode Island*, p. 734).

WANTON



There is a tradition that the Wanton brothers of Newport received an official augmentation to their arms during the reign of Anne. Mrs. Mary Bull Wanton (1728-1821) related to her family various "recollections," and these stories were eventually published in an anonymous and titleless pamphlet, a copy of which is in the library of the Rhode Island Historical Society. It reads as follows:

"The fame of this exploit reached England and when the two Wantons went to England in 1702, they were invited to court, and Queen Anne granted an addition to their coat of arms and presented each with two pieces of plate, a silver punch bowl and salver, with these mottoes in Latin inscribed on them:

"Omnipotente numine magistro

"Volat hic hercules ocyus vento,

"Multo non sanguine capientum hostes,

"Vincenti poculum dabitur wantoni.

which may be freely translated thus:

"Swift as the wind the intrepid warrior flies,

"Under the smiles of all approving Heaven;

"The trembling captive feels his power and dies,

"To conquering Wanton let the bowl be given."

From the records of the College of Arms it is clear that no such augmentation was ever granted, and the tradition, however fascinating and romantic, must be consigned to the limbo of old wives' tales. The seals used by Governor John Wanton in 1738 and by Governor Gideon Wanton in 1745, (*Her. Jour.* II:46), and in 1747, (R. I. State Archives, *Mil. Pap.* F & I War, I:115), and the arms on the gravestones of Abigail Wanton, 1726, (*Her. Jour.* III:64), and William Wanton, 1735, (*ibid* III:8), show no augmentation. The diminutive chevronel below the chevron on the seal of Gideon Wanton, (which the *Heraldic Journal* ascribes to poor technique), and also on the gravestone of William Wanton (but not shown in the illustration in the *Heraldic Journal*), may have been a "mark of difference"

assumed between 1726 and 1735. In any case this diminutive chevronel, or "couple close," (which, however, is unrecognized by heraldic writers, unless it is borne in pairs), may have given rise to the tradition. The miniature border around the shield on the gravestone of Abigail Wanton is clearly an artistic addition of the stone-cutter, and is of no heraldic import. Guillim in 1724 ascribes the arms "Argent a chevron sable" to the Wantons of Essex, but does not mention the crest.

The crest on the tombstone of Abigail Wanton is "An eagle preying," evidently of similar origin to the "Eagle preying on a dove proper" that was used as a crest by the Wantons of London (*Visit of London, Harl. Soc. Pub. I:62*).

From information generously contributed by Mrs. Harriette M. Forbes (from the manuscript account book of John Stevens, which is still extant), it appears that the Abigail Wanton stone was cut in 1726 by John Stevens, a Newport stone-cutter, and that Stevens had previously, in 1722, cut an armorial tombstone at the request of Colonel Wanton, presumably Colonel William Wanton, for John had advanced to the rank of Deputy Governor at this time. Unfortunately this stone has disappeared, and we do not know whether it was for the grave of William's first wife, Ruth, or for the grave of his father, Edward. The arms upon it were probably those of the Wantons, and if so, this use of them would antedate their appearance in the 1724 edition of Guillim, and so be a very strong indication that the arms had been inherited.

The arms upon the Wanton portraits in the State House in Providence, apparently intended for "Argent a chevron chequy azure and ermine between three griffin's heads erased gules, membered of the second," but poorly executed from an heraldic standpoint, are really Laxton arms, which became quartered with arms of the Wanton family of London by the marriage of Thomas Wanton to Joane, coheirress of John Laxton (see *Visit of London, 1568, Harl. Soc. Pub. I:62*). There is no heraldic or historical justification for the use of these arms for the Rhode Island Wantons. The portraits are late copies, and the arms on them were probably adapted from some book on heraldry.

